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Soviet Pilots Warned Not to Violate Flight Safety Rules: In a recent issue of Aviation and Cosmonautics, Soviet military pilots are reminded in some detail of the necessity for strict observance of established flight procedures. Even the slightest deviation from the prescribed flight parameters could result in failure or emergencies during a mission. On-board flight recorders continually monitor the pilot's performance from take-off until his return. Deviations from the flight plan and pilot errors are duly noted and analyzed by the ground commander.

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Comment: This Soviet philosophy of strict adherence to established flight procedures as noted earlier constitutes one of the major differences in the performance reliability of US and Soviet military pilots. This has resulted, for example, in PVO Strany (air defense) pilots who are not confident of their abilities particularly when confronted with unique tactical or emergency situations even after completing the 25X1 training program. The constant on-board monitoring of performance results in pilots who tend to show little imagination and initiative and are afraid of assuming responsibility for the conduct of their mission.

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